

## Discussion Questions

4.5  
6

1. What would happen to the number of upper trophic level organisms if the first trophic level population were to dramatically **decrease**? Why?

they would probably not survive

2. What would happen to the number of upper trophic level organisms if the lower trophic level organism's population were to dramatically **increase**? Why?

there would probably be over population

3. What **type of organisms** could we add to the food chain/web that would make the chain a cycle [circular]? Where would you place them?

decomposers [fungi, some bacteria]

4. How many organisms depend on the <sup>grasshopper</sup> ~~grasshopper~~ for their food? List them below.

the birds and the squirrel

5. What do you think the <sup>organisms that lots of other organisms rely on</sup> **keystone species** is in the food web? Why?

us

6. Think about what might happen if the trout was infected with mercury. What would happen to the food chain? How would it affect the other organisms?

all the organisms that eat the trout will get mercury